

**Materials Engineering and Testing Services and
Geotechnical Services**

Number: IAP 2005-001

Effective Date: July 1, 2011

**Amendment to the 2005 Independent
Assurance Program (IAP) Manual**

Supersedes: NEW

PURPOSE

This amends the July 2005 California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) *Independent Assurance (IA) Manual* to allow a two year qualification period for testers that meet certain proficiency requirements. This will be effective July 1, 2011.

BACKGROUND

Section 2.3.2 of the July 2005 Caltrans *IA Manual* states, "When a tester becomes qualified in a given test method, the qualifications will be valid for one year." The initial qualification is based on successful completion of a written and practical exam.

To maintain qualification, a tester must successfully perform witness testing for all test methods on an annual basis. In the case of California Tests 202, 217 and 227, qualification is maintained by successful corroboration testing between the tester and IA staff. This process is further detailed in Section 2.4.3.2.2 of the *Caltrans IA Manual*.

PROCEDURE

The July 2005 Caltrans *IA Manual* is amended to include provisions for a two year qualification for testers. The language is as follows:

2.3.2.3.1 Two-Year Qualification for Testers

A tester may be granted a two year qualification for a given test method under the following conditions:

- The tester passes the initial written and practical tests,
- The tester maintains qualification in a specific test method for two consecutive years.
- The tester re-qualifies for that specific test method in the third year.

➤ Example:

For testers obtaining a new qualification in a specific test method:

- ✓ In the year 2011, a tester obtains a **new** qualification in CT 2XX.
- ✓ In the year 2012, the tester renews his certification in CT 2XX by witness test or corroboration.
- ✓ In the year 2013, when the tester renews his certification in CT 2XX by witness test or corroboration, this qualification will be valid for **two** years and will expire in the year 2015. The tester will then renew his qualification every **two** years thereafter.

For a tester with a current qualification for two consecutive years prior to year 2011:

- ✓ *In the year 2009 (or earlier), a tester obtains initial qualification in CT 2XX.*
- ✓ *In the year 2010, a tester renews certification in CT 2XX by witness test or corroboration.*
- ✓ *In the year 2011, when the tester renews qualification in CT 2XX by witness test or corroboration. The qualification will be valid for **two** years, expiring in the year 2013. The tester will then renew his qualification every **two** years thereafter.*

If there is a lapse in qualification during this time period, the tester will be required to retake the written and practical exams. This will initiate a new cycle, and the tester will not be eligible for a two year qualification until two years after the written and practical exams.

There are no changes to section 2.3.2.4, "Disqualification of Testers". At any time, IA staff has the authority to disqualify testers that deviate from acceptable sampling and testing procedures.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities for each of the following groups are detailed in Section 1.3 "Roles and Responsibilities" of the July 2005 Caltrans *IA Manual*. The following groups are responsible for implementing the amendment:

- Headquarters – Section 1.3.4
 - Division of Construction – Section 1.3.4.1
 - Materials Engineering and Testing Services and Geotechnical Services (METS/GS) – Section 1.3.4.2
- Districts – Section 1.3.5
 - District IA Staff – Section 1.3.5.1
 - District Construction – Section 1.3.5.2
 - ◆ District Construction Engineer – Section 1.3.5.2.1
 - ◆ Resident Engineer – Section 1.3.5.2.2
 - Laboratories and Testers – Section 1.3.5.3.1
 - ◆ Laboratory – Section 1.3.5.3.1
 - ◆ Testers – Section 1.3.5.3.2
- Local Agencies – Section 1.3.6

APPROVED BY:

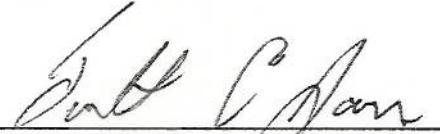


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6-20-11

Date

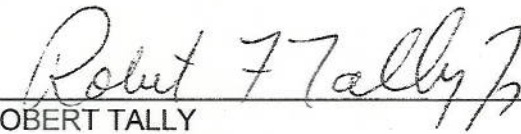
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